A SECOND

LETTER

TO THE

COMMONS and CITIZENS

OF THE

CITY of *DUBLIN*;

Reccommended to the serious Consideration of the FREE CITIZENS of LIMERICK, by C. M. D. L.

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A SECOND LETTER, TO THE *Commons* and *Citizens*, &c.

AS I muſt ever rejoice at every Circumſtance, that tends to the Welfare and Honour of MY FRIENDS and FELLOW-CITIZENS; I muſt take this Opportunity of congratulating YOU upon YOUR unexpected, and indeed, unparallelled ſucceſs, on Friday laſt.

WHEN I found, upon ſpeaking to ſome of my Acquaintance, that YOU, GENTLEMEN of the COMMONS, were as uſual, but partially ſummoned; when I found, in a principal Street in this City, in which ſeveral Brothers live, who are of the Commons, that but ſome of theſe Brothers had the Diſgrace to be ſummoned; for, I muſt ſuppoſe none were called, but ſuch, as were deemed Vaſſals enough to do what the Conclave of Cardinals commanded: I muſt honeſtly confeſs to you, that mine Heart ached for MY BRETHREN, and FELLOW CITIZENS; fearing, from former melancholy Examples, that a few would have been unwarily trepanned into the Ruin of the City and the indelible Diſgrace of the abſent, as well, as the attending Commons.

BUT, when I found You all juſtly alarmed, at the deſtructive Plot; when the Commons, unſummoned, unexpected by the Rulers, bravely, nobly, virtuouſly attended, ready to aſſert their own Honour, and the Rights of their Conſtituents; How my Soul exulted, is more eaſily conceived by generous Minds, than by me expreſſed.

SOME

SOME may imagine, that thus idly convoking and dismissing You, may be an Insult upon the Commons. And I believe the Conclave vainly, intended it such. But, give me leave to shew, it is a greater Honour, than ever the Conclave paid the Commons, since, by the Hell-invented New Rules, of Berkley and Essex, and the Aldermanic New Rules, of the Conclave; the Aldermen got a Hand in their Nomination.

TILL now, the Conclave did nothing, but insult, and grosly affront You: However freely, however honourably You might have been chosen, by the respective Corporations, You represent; being selected, or rather, culled out of the double Return, by the Conclave, was only, upon a Presumption, that You were the fittest, in the Return, for their Purposes; that is, that you were the vainest and fondest of City Honours; the weakest, and most stupid, and senseless Dolts; the most pliant, passive Slaves and Sycophants, the most temporising Tools, and the most dastardly Fools and Cowards, in the whole Set.

THIS was all the Rulers had to trust to; but thanks be to DIVINE PROVIDENCE! the Tyrants are fallen into the Pit-falls, they dug for others! And You, my most honoured Fellow Citizens of the Commons, have vindicated Yourselves and your Constituents, from their foul Imputations, and proved Yourselves good Subjects, good Citizens, and faithful Representatives!

Now, my Friends, see how your tyrannical Task-masters honour, revere and dread You! See how AWFUL VIRTUE, in low Station, can discountenance Vice, in the highest! and make the sumptuous Banquet and the costly Purple, of no Strength, no Security to Usurpers!

THE mixed Council, the motley Committee of Cardinals and Commons, or a sufficient Set for the Purpose; for ought we know, a Sub Committee, of Cardinals only; met and agreed to Alderman Custom's Proposal.

Proposal. A Post-Assembly was called, for Form Sake, to receive and ratify the Report of the Committee; to sign which, many of the Members were called, upon a few Minutes Notice.

By this Time the honest, the unexpected, the dreaded Faces of the free Commons appeared, in such Numbers, as to quash the most sanguine Hopes of the Conclave. They viewed You. They trembled. They retired. You saw them no more. They sent you nothing to do: For, they found You were qualified to do nothing—for their Purpose.

What became of your Sheriffs? ——— You have not. One of them has got into the Conclave; and Ambo-dexter, wou[illegible] head, and lord it over the Commons, in a double Capacity; both as a Sheriff and as an Alderman! This is not the only Instance, in which the Conclave breaks through the very Powers, which support their insatiable Tyranny, the New Rules: Those positively prohibit any Alderman's sitting with the Commons: Yet, the Aldermen, finding You are not to be actuated by their Weight, or Influence in the next Room, would send one of their goodly Corps, to be not only a Spy but a Ruler over You, in your Room!

You Spoiled this Gentleman's Sport! For he finds You will not, You can not, admit him to sit among You, without confessing the Truth, which is not always reckoned convenient; that he is not an Alderman; upon which, he and his new, tho' late abused Brethren dread, You will elect and Support One legal Alderman in your City.

When your Enemies are shewn You, You may easily find out your Friends. Among these, you must ever remember with due Respect and Gratitude, that Sheriff, that worthy Citizen, that good Man, who disdained the Offers of the Purple, while he was one of the Presidents of the Commons.

And

And here, I can not help congratulating You, upon the public Declaration of one of your Sheriffs elect; who, with just Indignation, resented his being called to sign Alderman Toll's Report, upon a short warning; and said, He never would Sign any Paper of such Consequence, under a Month's Consideration.---More Disappointment to your Inslavers!---If this Spirit rises but a little higher, Tyranny is not far from the Agonies of Death. Some late Struggles of the Faction would induce one to think them the last Convulsions and Howlings of Dogs dissected alive.--Do you my Friends, like skilful Physicians to your City, make the proper Use of [illegible] Dissection; and when you have learned the Anatomy, or Structure of the Monster, and considered the Nature of its Malignity, prevent the like Generation among you; prevent the beggaring, or ruining such an other.

[illegible] your general Attendance, on Friday last; by the generous Resolution You have shewn, to oppose all further Jobbs; by the firm Determination You manifested to discharge the Duty of good Citizens and righteous Commons, in asserting and vindicating the Honour and Interest, the Rights and Liberties of your Constituents and Selves; You have conferred a most lasting Obligation on the Public, in general: You have shewn your Inslavers, that You are not for their Purposes: You have shewn your Constituents, that You are faithfull, and zealous in the discharge of the Trust in you reposed. You have prevented some poor, unfortunate Families being set a Drift, by making a Monopoly of the Tolls and Customs; and the City from being Spoiled of those Revenues.

The last Consideration presents to my View, another of the manifold, destructive Abuses and Errors, in the present Government of the City, which is, partly, in your Power to rectify.

Every sensible Man must confess, that the surest and best Means of making Officers and Servants just to

their

their Employers, or Maſters, are giving them reaſonable Sallaries, or Wages. And that, on the contrary, pinching Penury, in theſe Inſtances, makes many a Man, meanly ſtoop to the venial Frauds, which paſs currently, under the faſhionable Denomination of Perquiſites; who would ſcorn them, had he ſufficient Subſiſtence without them.

NOTWITHSTANDING this, all the Officers and Servants of this City are either ſtinted to the ſmalleſt Allowance, or, actually farm their Employments.

THESE Toll gathers, or Cuſtom collectors, for Example, are each allowed, as I am informed, but twenty Pounds a Year, for attending in their Station every Day, from three of the Clock in the Morning, till twelve at Night, beſides keeping a Servant, or Aſſiſtant. The very Officers-at-Mace, rent their Places. So does the City Marſhal. And the moſt conſiderable Officer of the City has a Sallary, but of thirty Shillings a Year; and pays a Rent of one hundred Pounds a Year, for an Office, under a Stair Caſe, fit only for a Cole-hole, or a Bog houſe!-- Are not theſe ſtrong Temptations to Diſhoneſty?——If you would make good Servants, or faithfull Officers, you muſt pay them well; and then, you may puniſh them well, when they tranſgreſs.

Now, my Brethren, the Pannic You ſtruck into the Cardinals, laſt Friday, has raiſed the publick hopes; that You will be the happy Inſtruments of the Downfall of their intollerable Tyranny. You certainly, have it in your Power. How great muſt then, be your Condemnation, if you let ſlip the Opportunity! You have it in your Option to ſerve your King and Country, your City and yourſelves; and by ſo doing to manifeſt to the World, that You are loyal Subjects, zealous Patriots, virtuous Citizens and righteous Men; Or, by neglecting theſe great and indiſpenſable Duties, to prove, that You are the very falſe, ſawn-hearted, ſordid

did Slaves, and wretched Reprobates, by which you become intituled to the Favour of the Cardinals, only. ——You cannot one moment heſitate in the Choice! You muſt be convoked next Quarter-Aſſembly. It is unavoidable. Conſider your Duty! conſider what is juſtly expected at your Hands!----I need ſay no more. Reſolution and Unanimity is all that is neceſſary to gain your virtuous Ends--Can theſe be wanting upon ſo important, ſo critical an Occaſion?----I hope it is not to be imagined.

When every Kind of Abuſe, Inſolence and Oppreſſion is freely dealed to the Citizens, by the Cardinals, and countenanced by Men in Power, is it not Time for the Citizens to be upon their Guard? Is it not notorious, that a Citizen is not to hope for Mercy, nay, for common Juſtice from an Alderman?----Has not one of thoſe worſhipful Fathers of our City, even, the youngeſt of the Callow Brood, before he had yet, got out of his Pinfeathers, or thrown off his Leading-ſtrings; publickly offered the higheſt Inſult to a Citizen; and yet, refuſed him Satisfaction; for the modern gentile Reaſon; becauſe, the Citizen was no Gentleman?----Did not this ſuckling Alderman complain to the chief Magiſtrate? Was not the only Sheriff in the City ſent to take the Citizen in Arreſt? Was not the Citizen, in his own Defence and Vindication, conſtrained to give Examinations againſt the Alderman? And did not the Juſtices of the King's Bench, judge it inexpedient to ſuffer the Bill to be tried in that Court, where the Citizen was bound to proſecute?---- Thoſe, whom this will not alarm, are Senſeleſs and Stupid, paſſed Conception, paſſed Remedy!

I beg Leave to remind You of one Inſult more, which I find offered You by the Cardinals.

These Reverend Sages, though they muſt all be ſenſible, that there lives not a Wretch, in our City, who

who is ignorant of the Inſolence, the Oppreſſion, the Cruelty, the Uſurpation, the Tyranny of the Cardinals; ſtill claime the ſame Titule to Honor and Reſpect from the Citizens, to which Aldermen were intituled, when free Citizens upon juſt Principles, were by the fair unbiaſſed Voices of the approving Multitude, choſen into that, once honorable and great Office. And, what is yet, more aſtoniſhing! Theſe low, creeping, cringing Creatures of Faction, demand a Sovereign Authority over, and an high Preeminence to, the abuſed, the inſlaved Citizens, unknown to our Conſtitution! They, in Effect, clame a ſort of hereditary Right to Succede to all the great Offices, the Citizens can confer! as well, as thoſe, the Uſurpers, have wreſted out of their Hands!

THAT JUSTICE the Guardian Angel of our Iſle, and LIBERTY the Bright Genius of our civil Conſtitution, may always ſuperintend, and direct you, in your Choice, eſpecially, upon this critical Emergency, is the moſt fervent Prayer of,

My moſt honoured and truly beloved Brethren

and

Fellow-Citizens,

Your moſt faithful

and

moſt devoted Friend and

Servant

C. Lucas.

Dublin, May 13th, 1749.